



Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231
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APPLICATION NUMBER FILING DATE

FIRST NAMED APPLICANT

ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE

DATE MAILED:

NOTICE OF IMPROPER REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)

The request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 filed on 1/2/03 is improper for reason(s) indicated below:

- 1. Continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to an application for a design patent. Applicant may wish to consider filing a continuing application under 37 CFR 1.53(b) or a CPA under 37 CFR 1.53(d).
- 2. Continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to an application that was filed before June 8, 1995. Applicant may wish to consider filing a continuing application under 37 CFR 1.53(b) or a CPA under 37 CFR 1.53(d).
- 3. Continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to an application unless prosecution in the application is closed. If the RCE was accompanied by a reply to a non-final Office action, the reply will be entered and considered under 37 CFR 1.111. If the RCE was not accompanied by a reply, the time period set forth in the last Office action continues to run from the mailing date of that action.
- 4. The request was not filed before payment of the issue fee, and no petition under 37 CFR 1.313 was granted. If this application has not yet issued as a patent, applicant may wish to consider filing either a petition under 37 CFR 1.313 to withdraw this application from issue, or a continuing application under 37 CFR 1.53(b).
- 5. The request was not filed before abandonment of the application. The application was abandoned, or proceedings terminated on _____. Applicant may wish to consider filing a petition under 37 CFR 1.137 to revive this abandoned application.
- 6. The request was not accompanied by the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) as required by 37 CFR 1.114. Since the application is not under appeal, the time period set forth in the final Office action or notice of allowance continues to run from the mailing date of that action or notice.
- 7. The request was not accompanied by a submission as required by 37 CFR 1.114. Since the application is not under appeal, the time period set forth in the final Office action or notice of allowance continues to run from the mailing date of that action or notice.

Note: If a request for a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 CFR 1.53(d) has been filed in the utility or plant application (including a previously filed CPA) that was filed on or after May 29, 2000, the request for a CPA has been treated as a RCE because the CPA practice no longer applies to such application. The constructive RCE, however, is improper for reason(s) indicated above.

A copy of this notice MUST be returned with any reply.

Direct the reply and any questions about this notice to:

Veronica Everett, Examining Group TC 1700

(703) 308 - 2783



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.

EXAMINER	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED:

RECEIVED
AUG 21 2003
TC 1700

INFORMALITY RE PAYMENT OF FEE

The informality regarding the payment of the fee in connection with the original filing fee the amendment filed 7/2/03 is indicated below.

A. FEE DUE

1. The amendment is considered incomplete in that the funds in Deposit Account No. _____ are insufficient to cover the entire fee due. The balance is due within the period set below.
2. The amendment is considered an incomplete response, in that payment of \$ _____ is insufficient to cover the claims as shown in the attached Patent Application Fee Determination Record. Remittance is due within the period set below.
3. The amendment has not been entered, since applicant has failed to remit (or authorize charge to a Deposit Account) the fee as indicated on the attached Patent Application Fee Determination Record. Remittance or authorization is due within the period set below.
4. The filing fee of \$ _____ submitted in this application is insufficient.

A balance of \$ _____ is due for additional claims.

5. 2 months Extension of Time in the amount of 400 is owed.

[REDACTED]

REGER,

B. EXCESS PAYMENT:

5. It is noted that payment of \$ _____ is in excess of the amount necessary to cover the claims now in the application. See the attached Patent Application Fee Determination Record.

This matter of refund or credit to your account is being referred to the Finance Officer, for his consideration.

Veronica Day Everett
CLERK OF GROUP